

BEGINNING ALGEBRA

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is a first course in elementary algebra including: algebraic expressions, linear equations and inequalities, linear equations and inequalities in two variables, exponents and polynomials, factoring and rational expressions.

PREREQUISITE: Successful completion (grade of **C** or better) of Math 250 or eligibility as determined by the assessment process

TEXT: George Woodbury, Beginning & Intermediate Algebra, 3rd Edition

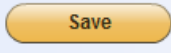
MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ❑ **One to two Spiral Notebooks**
- ❑ 3-ring binder
- ❑ Pencil(s)
- ❑ Scientific Calculator (No TI-89 or cellphones)
- ❑ **Access Code to Course Compass (MyLab/Mastering)**
- ❑ Internet Connection: Cable/DSL, T1 or other high-speed connection. Dial-up will **greatly limit** the resources you will be able to access from the online courseware.

HOMEWORK:

- Homework is assigned on a regular basis at www.coursecompass.com as well as in class. You may work ahead if you like. ***It is important to stay current to be successful in the course!*** Each assignment has a due date. **Homework that is submitted late will be penalized by 25% of the points possible.**
- Any written problems and exercises assigned in class must be worked out thoroughly, completely and neatly, otherwise the work will not receive full credit.

Note:

- *When working on homework, you do not have to complete an entire assignment during one session. If you need to stop while in the middle of an assignment, simply hit the  icon and the program will save your work. You can then come back to the assignment at another time and continue from where you left off.*
- ***Being absent on the day homework is due does not excuse you from the late submission penalty.***

Homework Notebook: All homework problems are to be worked out completely, with all work shown in a **single-subject spiral notebook**. This notebook is to be used exclusively for this class. Each assignment and the problems of the assignment are to be clearly labeled and answers are to be boxed. The **Homework Notebook** will be collected on test day and will be worth **two homework assignments**.

QUIZZES: There will be **daily** in-class **homework quizzes**. These quizzes will be worth 10 points each and will be given **during the first five minutes of class**. Any students who are not in their seats when the quiz is handed out **will not** be allowed to take the quiz and will receive a grade of zero for that quiz. There will be no makeup quizzes for students coming in late during a quiz or for students absent on the day of a quiz.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance is **not optional**. Students are expected to attend all class meetings, be on time, and be in class the entire class session. **Two tardies can be counted as an absence**. **Five (5) absences** may result in a drop from the course. However, if you decide to drop the course, it is **your** responsibility to make the drop official in the Admissions and Records office or else possibly receive a grade of F.

TESTS:

- Seven (7) chapter tests, worth 100 points each, will be given.
- There are **NO MAKEUPS** for missed tests. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!**
- *If you absolutely must be absent on the day a test is scheduled, you may discuss with me the possibility of taking the test early.*

FINAL EXAM:

A two hour comprehensive final exam worth 100 points will be given at the end of the semester during final exams week. This final exam is **mandatory and will count as a regular exam**. The final **may** be used to replace a low test score or a missed test. The final **may not** be used to replace the homework grade or quiz grade.

GRADING:

- **Homework** will represent 20% of the final course grade.
- **Quizzes** will represent 20% of the final course grade.
- The **seven chapter exams and the final exam** will represent 60% of the final course grade.

Example: If your homework average is 90, the average of your quizzes is 75 and the average of your chapter exams and final is 78, then you would compute your grade as follows:

$$(.20)(85) + (.20)(75) + (.60)(78) = 17 + 15 + 46.8 = 78.8$$

- Your grade will then be determined by the following **grading scale**:

% Earned	Grade
90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
67 – 79	C
55 – 66	D
0 – 54	F

Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty in any form is a very serious offense and will incur serious consequences, including but not limited to receiving a grade of F in the course. For the college policy on cheating and plagiarism, see the college catalog.

Important Dates:

- ***August 24, 2011 – Last day to add***
- ***September 5, 2011 – Labor Day Holiday***
- ***September 6, 2011 – Last day to file for Pass/No-Pass grading basis***
- ***September 14, 2011 – Last day to drop***
- ***FINAL EXAM DATE:***

Friday, October 14, 2011: 10:00 – 11:50 (FEM-4)
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COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Students will be able to:

- learn the real number system, its subsets and how to perform operations on numbers from these subsets.
- simplify algebraic expressions and solve linear equations and inequalities
- graph linear equations in two variables and solve systems of linear equations.
- simplify expressions using the properties of exponents and perform operations with polynomials.
- factor algebraic expressions and solve equations of degree greater than one.
- perform arithmetic operations on rational expressions and solve equations containing rational expressions.

COURSE CONTENT OUTLINE

Chapter 1: Review of Real Number

Chapter 2: Linear Equations

Chapter 3: Graphing Linear Equations

Chapter 4: Systems of Equations

Chapter 5: Exponents and Polynomials

Chapter 6: Factoring and Quadratic Equations

Chapter 7: Rational Expressions and Equations